

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
January 23, 2013 MINUTES

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met at a Board January 23rd, 2013,
at 6:00 p.m. in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E. First Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rory Gilbert, Chair
Hong Chartrand
Denise Heap- Vice Chair
Frank Johnson
Cliff Moon
Lela Hinds-Peterson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jaime Aguirre
Wayne Manske
Orchidia Peterson

STAFF PRESENT

Ruth Giese
Andrea Arenas

GUESTS

Vera Hochhalter
Susan Lotz
Cmdr. Mark Wesselman

1. Chair's Call to Order.

Ms. Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

- Orchidia Peterson's Leave of Absence

Ms. Gilbert advised the board that Ms. Peterson will be taking a two month leave of absence.

2. Items from Citizens Present.*

There were no citizens who requested to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the November 28th, 2012 board meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Hinds-Peterson to approve the November 28th, 2012 minutes. Ms. Chartrand seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Mesa Police Department Report.

Mr. Villa announced on February 1st, 2013 at 9am the Police Advisory Boards will be holding a meeting at EVIT. The Chief plans to speak and Dave Christianson, Principal of Longfellow Elementary School, is scheduled to speak on the values of community partnerships. On February 4th, 2013 at 4 pm the Clergy Advisory Board will be meeting at the Central Police Station community room. On February 19th, 2013 at 5 pm the Asian Advisory Board will be meeting at Dobson Pediatrics. Mr. Villa also advised that Mesa Police Department will be participating again in the Phoenix Pride Parade. This year they plan to invite other agencies to march with them as well. Mr. Villa introduced Commander Mark Wesselman to the board. Ms. Heap thanked Commander Wesselman on reviewing an investigation with possible diversity intolerance displayed by an officer.

5. Hear, discuss, and take action on items presented by the Ad Hoc Veterans Task Force.

Ms. Gilbert reminded the board that the Veterans Task Force will be holding a meeting on January 26th, 2013 at 9am at the Mesa Utilities Community Room. Ms. Heap informed that Mayor Scott Smith is scheduled for welcoming remarks.

- Approve request to approach Public Information Office regarding a Veterans Information link to be added on the City of Mesa webpage.

This item has been tabled for approval.

- Approve January 26th Ad Hoc Veterans Task Force Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Moon to approve the agenda and Ms. Heap seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Hear, discuss, and take action on items presented by the Ad Hoc Issues Research and Action Team.

Mr. Moon stated that he has been researching policies that other cities have put into effect regarding hate crimes. Ms. Heap advised that the Northpointe 1 HOA would like to hold a meeting in March or April. She plans to follow up with her contacts for more information in order to plan the meeting.

7. Hear and discuss and take action on Peace Pole project.

Ms. Gilbert stated that she is awaiting contact from the City regarding a date for the project. Mesa Sunrise Rotary will be funding the project. Ms. Gilbert asked the board for recommendations on where the pole could be located. In response, Ms. Heap recommended the Council Chambers. Mr. Moon recommended a high traffic area. Ms. Gilbert agreed that it should be in both a high traffic and central city location therefore she endorsed City Hall as a proposed location. Ms. Chartrand and Ms. Hinds-Peterson also endorsed City Hall. Ms. Gilbert stated that they can do more peace pole projects in other locations in the future. A motion was made by Ms. Heap for HRAB to recommend the peace pole site either be the Council Chambers or City Hall. Ms. Hinds-Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Gilbert acknowledged that this motion is only a recommendation, but that the project site will be determined by City Council and City staff.

8. General Plan Committee Report.

Ms. Heap stated that she attended the December meeting. The topics of discussion included dealing with the revitalization of neighborhoods and how to identify problems and how to develop stronger neighborhoods. Ms. Heap stated that they are looking to include data from crime reports, code compliance complaints and other city data to identify neighborhoods that need help.

9. Hear and discuss conferences and/or meetings.

Ms. Gilbert stated that she attended the Arizona Industry Leaders Group meeting on January 22nd, 2013 regarding recommendations for more effective hiring of veterans and people with disabilities. Ms. Gilbert also announced that Healing Racism will be holding another discussion on profiling and privilege from 6-8pm on Wednesday, February 20th. Ms. Chartrand announced that the Arizona Public Health Association will be holding their spring conference on April 24th from 8am-4pm titled 'Moving Arizona Communities towards Health Equity' at University of Phoenix. Ms. Gilbert acknowledged Mr. Moon and the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee for another outstanding series of events. Mr. Moon stated that they met their goal of improving each year. The committee also plans on sending out surveys this year asking for feedback on all of the events.

10. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, and general information.

Ms. Heap stated that she would like to discuss the Pride Parade at the next meeting. Ms. Gilbert agreed to make this an agenda item.

- Regional Unity Walk to be held on February 2nd, 2013.

Ms. Gilbert reminded the board of the walk and that t-shirts will be provided at the event.

- Next meeting will be held on February 27th, 2013 at 6pm.

11. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator